

RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

Wyoming Board of Agriculture Minutes
July 6, 2005
Conference Call

Members Present: Helen Jones, President
Gene Hardy
David Graham
John Etchepare, Director, WY Dept. of Agriculture

Members Absent: Spencer Ellis, Vice President
Meghan Lally
Lee Otto
Jim Mickelson
Ryan Ells
Leif Undem
David Largent
Emily Horton
Ben Way, Governor Freudenthal's Office
Frank Galey, Dean, UW College of Agriculture

WDA Staff Present: Jim Schwartz, Deputy Director
Muff Parker, Recording Secretary
Ken Nelson, Senior Assistant Attorney General

The meeting was called to order by President Jones 8:05 a.m. on July 6, 2005.

Updates

The Board discussed the layoffs of brand inspectors and the budget deficit the Livestock Board is experiencing. It was also noted that Kelly Hamilton has resigned. Jim Schwartz talked about a meeting in Gillette with a local plant interested in producing biodiesel fuels. He also informed the Board about the lawsuit filed by the Wildlife Federation on Sage-grouse. He said the Desserret tour in Utah went well and reminded members of the Sage-grouse conference scheduled in August in Riverton. He, Hank Uhden and others will be meeting with all 23 Predatory Animal Board by the end of August to educate them on the legislation proposed, del-listing the wolf, adding sportsmen to the PABs and budgets. He said John Andrikopolus may be looking for a few ranches to help them with the Sage-grouse on their property. The investigation of the building collapse at State Fair is finished. Insurance money will be coming to rebuild. In the meantime, Barney is trying to locate some tents to meet the needs of the State Fair. The cost seems to be in the neighborhood of 20 to 40 thousand dollars. John does not want to cancel any events. Adequate separation of domestic and wild sheep is necessary on the Medicine Bow. The Smithsfork has been controversial. Almost half of the allotment is in a wilderness study. This means it is treated as wilderness until managed. The feds have been authorized by State Lands to monitor state land because they don't have the resources to manage it. Grant has requested a replacement position for

Dennis Sun and the final date for application is July 26. Through Homeland Security funding, we were able to hire Laurie Leis to do the consulting for the department.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Jones, President

Date